

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Owen, et al.
Serial No. : 09/719,889
Filed : February 21, 2001
Title : METHOD OF TISSUE REPAIR II

Art Unit : 1653
Examiner : Billy D. Chism

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

A copy of the reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance.

Applicants submit that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in section 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

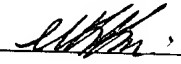
The assignee first became aware of the reference to Lauto *et al.* on December 13, 2002.

03/17/2003 GTRAMEL 00000002 061050 09719889
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

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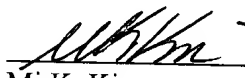
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Page : 2

Attorney's Docket No.: 12724-002001 / 30347USP00

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/28/2003



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Substitute Form PTO-1449
(Modified)U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAttorney's Docket No.
12724-002001Application No.
09/719,889**Information Disclosure Statement****by Applicant**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Owen, et al.Filing Date
February 21, 2001Group Art Unit
1653

#8

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6,323,037	11/27/2001	Lauto <i>et al.</i>			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

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	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.